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BOX PATENT APPLICATION Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Re:

Application of Tatsuki KOUWA, Katsuhiro SASAKI

VOLTAGE CONTROL APPARATUS FOR VEHICLE GENERATOR

Our Ref. Q61020

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is the application identified above including 24 sheets of the specification, claims, 6 sheet(s) of formal drawings, executed Assignment and PTO 1595 form, and executed Declaration and Power of Attorney. Also enclosed is the Information Disclosure Statement and PTO form 1449, and Priority document.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	8 - 20	=	_ x	\$18.00	=_	\$.00
Independent claims	3 - 3	=	x	\$80.00	=	\$.00
Base Fee						\$710.00
TOTAL FILING FE	Œ					\$710.00
Recordation of Assign	nment					\$40.00
TOTAL FEE						\$750.00

Checks for the statutory filing fee of \$710.00 and Assignment recordation fee of \$40.00 are attached. You are also directed and authorized to charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 and any petitions for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Priority is claimed from April 11, 2000 based on JP Application No. P2000-109030. The priority document(s) are enclosed herewith.

> Respectfully submitted, SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC

Attorneys for Applicant

Registration No. 23,063

DM/slb

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VOLTAGE CONTROL APPARATUS FOR VEHICLE GENERATOR

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator wherein an ignition switch and a charge lamp are connected in series so that a single input terminal is commonly used for these elements.

As a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator which has an input terminal for inputting a battery voltage through an ignition switch and a charge lamp and starts the operation when the voltage at the input terminal exceeds a predetermined value, there is known one disclosed in Japanese Patent No. 2707616. Fig. 6 shows a circuit diagram of the voltage control apparatus disclosed in the Japanese Patent.

The voltage control apparatus 1 shown in Fig. 6 is arranged in a manner that the voltage control apparatus includes an input terminal L for inputting the voltage of a battery 5 through an ignition switch 3 and a charge lamp 4 connected in series with the ignition lamp and starts the excitation of a rotary coil 21 of a vehicle generator 2 when the voltage at the input terminal L exceeds a predetermined value. The voltage control apparatus 1 further includes a comparison means 12 which generates an output signal when the voltage at the input terminal L exceeds another predetermined value lower than the aforesaid predetermined value, and a switch means 14 which

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operates in response to the output signal thereby to connect a leak compensation resistor 143 between the input terminal L and the ground.

To be more concrete, the voltage control apparatus 1 shown in Fig. 6 includes comparators 12, 13. The voltage of the input 5 terminal L is applied to each of the negative "-" terminals of these comparators. Constant voltages V1, V2 are applied to the positive "+" terminals of the comparators 12, 13, respectively, wherein V1 < V2. A transistor 16 is connected 10 to the output terminal of the comparator 12. A transistor 14 serving as a switch means is turned on in response to the output of the transistor 16 applied through a resistor 142. transistor 1112 is connected to the output terminal of the comparator 13. A power transistor 11 is turned on in response to the output of the transistor 1112 applied through a resistor 15 1114.

The transistor 14 and a transistor 152 are connected to a comparator 15 through transistors 141, 151, respectively. When the vehicle generator 2 starts the electric power generation operation, the voltage generated by the generator exceeds a constant voltage V3, so that the comparator 15 turns off the transistors 14, 152. In the figure, reference numerals 22, 23 depict the stator coil and the full-wave rectifier of the vehicle generator 2 respectively. A resistor 144 provided between the input terminal L and the ground serves to lower

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the voltage at the input terminal L to the ground level upon the normal opening operation of the ignition switch 3.

During the electric power generation operation, the power transistor 11 is turned on and off in response to a transistor 1111. A zener diode 1113 is provided on the base side of the transistor 1111.

An example of the conventional voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator is shown in Fig. 7 in which a light emitting element such as a light emitting diode driven with a low dissipation power is employed as the charge lamp. When the light emitting diode etc. is employed as the charge lamp as shown in Fig. 7, it is required to mount a current limit resistor in series with the light emitting diode etc. on a vehicle side in order to prevent the occurrence of such a phenomenon that a transistor 152 for turning on the light emitting diode etc. is broken by an overcurrent.

However, when the current limit resistor is mounted on the vehicle side, the arrangement of the apparatus on the vehicle side becomes complicated. Further, even in the case where the current limit resistor is inserted on the vehicle side, there arises a problem that, when a high voltage such as a battery voltage etc. is directly applied to the input terminal L due to the abnormality of the vehicle wiring etc., the transistor for driving the light emitting element (light emitting diode etc.) driven with a low dissipation power may be broken by an

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overcurrent.

Further, there is a problem that a dedicated element such as a transistor etc. for lightening the light emitting element is required and that the light emitting element may always be kept in a lightened state by a current flowing into the input terminal L for starting the operation of the voltage control apparatus.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, the present invention has been made in order to obviate the aforesaid problems of the prior art, and an object of the present invention is to provide a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator having a stable starting circuit which can start the voltage control circuit without breaking the voltage control apparatus even in an abnormal case that a high voltage is directly applied to the input terminal L of the voltage control apparatus.

Further, another object of the invention is to provide a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator which eliminates a dedicated element such as a transistor etc. which has been employed merely to turning on and off the light emitting element and can turn on and off the light emitting element with a simple circuit arrangement.

Furthermore, still another object of the invention is to provide a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator

which can prevent the occurrence of such a phenomenon that the light emitting element is always kept in a lightened state by a current for starting the operation of the voltage control apparatus which flows into the voltage control apparatus from the input terminal L through the light emitting element.

The invention according to aspect 1 is characterized in that in a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator which has an input terminal for inputting the voltage of a battery through an ignition switch and a light emitting element connected in series with the ignition switch and driven by a low dissipation power and which starts the excitation of the rotor coil of the vehicle generator when the voltage at the input terminal exceeds a predetermined value, wherein a resistor for limiting the current flowing through the light emitting element is disposed between an element within the voltage control apparatus for driving the light emitting element and the input terminal.

The invention according to aspect 2 is characterized in that in a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator which has an input terminal for inputting a voltage of a battery through an ignition switch and a light emitting element connected in series with the ignition switch and driven by a low dissipation power and which starts excitation of a rotor coil of the vehicle generator when a voltage at the input terminal exceeds a predetermined value, wherein the light

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emitting element is lightened by a current itself which is inputted into the input terminal for starting the operation of the voltage control apparatus.

The invention according to aspect 3 is characterized, in the voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to aspect 2, in that the light emitting element is coupled through the ignition switch to the base terminal of an NPN transistor for starting the operation of the voltage control apparatus so that the light emitting element is turned on by a current flowing into the base terminal.

The invention according to aspect 4 is characterized in that in a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator which has an input terminal for inputting a voltage of a battery through an ignition switch and a light emitting element connected in series with the ignition switch and driven by a low dissipation power and which starts excitation of a rotor coil of the vehicle generator when a voltage at the input terminal exceeds a predetermined value, wherein a circuit for detecting the voltage of the input terminal and starting the voltage control apparatus is arranged to be shutdown or inoperable after the vehicle generator starts the electric power generation operation.

The invention according to aspect 5 is characterized, in the voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to aspect 4, in that after the circuit for detecting the voltage

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of the input terminal and starting the voltage control apparatus is shutdown after the vehicle generator starts electric power generation operation, the operation of a starting circuit for the voltage control apparatus is maintained by the output of one phase of the vehicle generator.

The invention according to aspect 6 is characterized in that in a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator which has an input terminal for inputting a voltage of a battery through an ignition switch and a light emitting element connected in series with the ignition switch and driven by a low dissipation power and which starts excitation of a rotor coil of the vehicle generator when a voltage at the input terminal exceeds a predetermined value, wherein a circuit for detecting the voltage of the input terminal and starting the voltage control apparatus includes a field effect transistor.

The invention according to aspect 7 is characterized in that a light emitting diode is used as the light emitting element.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a circuit diagram showing a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to the first embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a circuit diagram showing a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to the first

embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 3 is a circuit diagram showing a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to the second embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 4 is a circuit diagram showing a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to the third embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 5 is a circuit diagram showing a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to the fourth embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 6 is a circuit diagram showing a conventional voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator.

Fig. 7 is a circuit diagram showing a conventional voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS (First embodiment)

Fig. 1 is a circuit diagram showing a voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to the first embodiment of the invention. The voltage control apparatus 1 shown in Fig. 1 has an input terminal L for inputting the voltage of a battery 5 through an ignition switch 3 and a light emitting element (light emitting diode 4) driven by a low dissipation power which is connected in series with the ignition switch. The voltage control apparatus is arranged to start the

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excitation of the rotor coil 201 of a vehicle generator 2 when the voltage of the input terminal L exceeds a predetermined value.

The voltage control apparatus 1 includes a current limit resistor 115 connected in series with a transistor 114 between the input terminal L and the collector of the transistor 114 for lightening the light emitting diode 4.

The voltage control apparatus 1 further includes a comparator 108 having a negative "-" terminal to which the voltage of the input terminal L is applied and a positive "+" terminal to which a constant voltage Vy is inputted.

When the ignition switch 3 is closed, the battery voltage is applied to the negative terminal of the comparator 108 through the light emitting diode 4 thereby to change the output of the comparator 108 from a high level to a low level, so that a transistor 110 is turned on. When the transistor 110 is turned on, the voltage control apparatus 1 is started. Thus, a transistor 101 is supplied with a base current through a resistor 104 and hence a rotor coil 201 is supplied with a field current, whereby the vehicle generator 2 is placed in a state of capable of generating electric power.

When the vehicle generator 2 is in a state of before starting an electric power generation operation, a comparator 109 is supplied at its positive "+" terminal with zero voltage, so that the comparator 109 outputs a low level thereby to turn

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off a transistor 103. Thus, the transistor 114 for driving the light emitting diode 4 is supplied with a base current through a resistor 116 and turned on, whereby the light emitting diode 4 is turned on by the current flowing through the resistor 115.

In this case, since the voltage of the input terminal L of the voltage control apparatus 1 is kept at almost same voltage as that of the battery 5 by the resistor 115, the negative terminal of the comparator 108 is kept to be supplied with a voltage higher than the voltage Vy, so that both the transistors 101 and 114 are surely kept to be supplied with the base current.

Further, even when the input terminal L is directly applied with the voltage of the battery 5 due to the abnormality of the wiring of the input terminal L, the short-circuit of the light emitting diode 4 etc. of the voltage control apparatus 1, since the current flowing into the collector of the transistor 114 is limited by the resistor 115, the transistor 114 is prevented from being broken.

When the vehicle generator 2 starts the electric power generation operation, since both a diode 111 and a capacitor 112 receive the output voltage of one phase of the generator, the voltage of the positive terminal of the comparator 109 becomes larger than the voltage Vx of the negative terminal thereof. Thus, since the output of the comparator 109 is changed from a low level to a high level, the transistor 113 is tuned on and so the transistor 114 is turned off thereby

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to turn off the light emitting diode 4.

Since a transistor 103 and the transistor 101 are switched in response to a predetermined voltage which is obtained by dividing the output voltage of the vehicle generator 2 by resistors 106, 107 and a zener diode 105, the current flowing through the rotor coil 201 is intermittently controlled and so controlled to a predetermined value.

When the current limit resistor 115 is disposed in a manner as shown in Fig. 2, the same technical effect as the arrangement of Fig. 1 can be attained.

As described above, according to the voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator of the first embodiment, in a case where the light emitting element such as the light emitting diode driven by a low dissipation power is employed as the charge lamp, the resistor for limiting the current flowing through the light emitting element is disposed between the input terminal and the element for driving the light emitting element within the voltage control apparatus. Thus, the voltage control circuit is prevented from being broken even in an abnormal case that the output voltage of the battery is directly applied to the input terminal, and the stable starting circuit for the voltage control circuit can be arranged with the simple configuration.

(Second embodiment)

The second embodiment is arranged in a manner that in the

voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator which has an input terminal L for inputting the voltage of a battery through an ignition switch and a light emitting element (light emitting diode etc.) connected in series with the ignition switch and driven by a low dissipation power and which starts its operation when the voltage at the input terminal L exceeds a predetermined value, the light emitting element is lightened by the current itself which is inputted into the input terminal L for starting the operation of the voltage control apparatus thereby to eliminate a dedicated element for lightening the light emitting element.

Fig. 3 is a circuit diagram showing the voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to the second embodiment. In Fig. 3, when an ignition switch 3 is closed, a transistor 122 is supplied with a base current through a light emitting diode 4 serving as a charge lamp, a current limit resistor 115, a zener diode 120 and a resistor 126, so that the transistor 122 and a transistor 110 are turned on. Thus, a transistor 101 is supplied with a base current through a resistor 104 and so turned on, and hence a rotor coil 201 is supplied with a field current, whereby the vehicle generator 2 is placed in a state of capable of generating electric power.

Further, the light emitting diode 4 is lightened by the base current of the transistor 122 which is supplied to the input terminal L through the ignition switch 3 for driving the

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transistor 122.

When the vehicle generator 2 starts the electric power generation operation, like the first embodiment, since the output of a comparator 109 is changed from a low level to a high level, a transistor 121 is tuned on, so that a transistor 123 is also turned on. Thus, since the battery voltage is applied to the collector terminal of the transistor 123, the current having been supplied to the light emitting diode 4 is cut off, whereby the light emitting diode 4 is turned off.

Further, since the transistor 122 is supplied with the base current due to the turning-on of the transistor 123, the circuit for supplying the base current for the transistor 101 is prevented from being shut down or inoperable.

Since the voltage control operation of the voltage control apparatus of this embodiment is same as that of the first embodiment, the explanation of the voltage control operation of the voltage control apparatus of this embodiment will be omitted.

As described above, according to the voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator of the second embodiment, the element such as a dedicated transistor etc. which has been employed merely to turning on and off the light emitting element driven with a low dissipation power can be eliminated and the light emitting element can be turned on and off with the simple circuit arrangement.

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(Third embodiment)

The third embodiment is arranged in a manner that in the voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator which has an input terminal L for inputting the voltage of a battery through an ignition switch and a light emitting element (light emitting diode etc.) connected in series with the ignition switch and driven by a low dissipation power and which starts its operation when the voltage at the input terminal exceeds a predetermined value, the circuit for detecting the voltage of the input terminal L and starting the voltage control apparatus is arranged to be shutdown or inoperable after the vehicle generator starts the electric power generation operation.

Fig. 4 is a circuit diagram showing the voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to the third embodiment.

In Fig. 4, when an ignition switch 3 is closed, a transistor 144 is supplied at its emitter terminal with a voltage through a light emitting diode 4 serving as a charge lamp and a current limit resistor 115. In this case, since a transistor 133 is applied at its base terminal with the battery voltage through a resistor 148, the transistor 133 is in a conductive state. Thus, since the transistor 144 is also made conductive, a transistor 122 is supplied with a base current through a resistor 146, so that a transistor 110 is turned on. In

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accordance with the turning-on of the transistor 110, a transistor 101 is supplied with a base current through a resistor 104 and so turned on. As a result, a rotor coil 201 is supplied with a field current, whereby the vehicle generator 2 is placed in a state of capable of generating electric power.

In this case, the light emitting diode 4 is lightened by the base current of the transistor 122 flowing through the resistor 146 and the collector current of the transistor 133 flowing through a resistor 147.

When the vehicle generator 2 starts the electric power generation operation, like the first embodiment, since the output of a comparator 109 is changed from a low level to a high level, a transistor 132 is tuned on, so that a transistor 133 is turned off. Thus, since the transistor 144 is also turned off, the current having been supplied to the base electrode of the transistor 122 is cut off, whereby the light emitting diode 4 is turned off.

Further, when the transistor 122 is turned off, the transistor 110 is also turned off, whereby the circuit for supplying the base current for the transistor 101 is shut down or made inoperable. Thus, after the vehicle generator 2 starts the electric power generation operation, a transistor 131 is turned on by the output of the comparator 109 thereby to turn on the transistor 110, whereby the circuit for supplying the base current for the transistor 101 is kept to be operable to

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maintain the supply of the base current.

Since the voltage control operation of the voltage control apparatus of this embodiment is same as that of the first embodiment, the explanation of the voltage control operation of the voltage control apparatus of this embodiment will be omitted.

As described above, according to the voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator of the third embodiment, the circuit for detecting the voltage of the input terminal L and starting the voltage control apparatus is arranged to be shutdown or inoperable after the vehicle generator starts the electric power generation operation. Thus, this embodiment can prevent the occurrence of such a phenomenon that the light emitting element is kept in a lightened state by the current for starting the operation of the voltage control apparatus which flows into the voltage control apparatus from the input terminal L through the light emitting element driven with a low dissipation power.

(Fourth embodiment)

The fourth embodiment is arranged in a manner that in the voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator which has an input terminal L for inputting the voltage of a battery through an ignition switch and a light emitting element (light emitting diode etc.) connected in series with the ignition switch and driven by a low dissipation power and which starts

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its operation when the voltage at the input terminal L exceeds a predetermined value, the circuit for detecting the voltage of the input terminal L and starting the voltage control apparatus includes a field effect transistor.

Fig. 5 is a circuit diagram showing the voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to the fourth embodiment.

In Fig. 5, when an ignition switch 3 is closed, a field effect transistor (FET) 151 is supplied with a voltage through a light emitting diode 4 serving as a charge lamp and a resistor 152. A transistor 110 is also turned on the moment the FET 151 is turned on, and so transistors 101 and 114 are supplied with base currents through resistors 104 and 116, respectively. Thus, since the transistor 101 is turned on, a rotor coil 201 is supplied with a field current, so that a vehicle generator 2 is placed in a state of capable of generating electric power. Further, since the transistor 114 is also turned on, the light emitting diode 4 is lightened.

When the vehicle generator 2 starts the electric power generation operation, like the first embodiment, since the output of a comparator 109 is changed from a low level to a high level, a transistor 113 is tuned on, so that the transistor 114 is turned off. Thus, since the current having been supplied to the light emitting diode 4 is cut off, the light emitting diode 4 is turned off.

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The starting circuit for the voltage control circuit 1 of the vehicle generator 2 includes the field effect transistor (FET) 151. Since the FET 151 does not require any current to be supplied to the gate circuit thereof, the FET 151 keeps the conductive state whilst the current does not flow through the resistor 152. Thus, the operation of the starting circuit can be maintained without erroneously lightening the light emitting diode 4.

Since the voltage control operation of the voltage control apparatus of this embodiment is same as that of the first embodiment, the explanation of the voltage control operation of the voltage control apparatus of this embodiment will be omitted.

As described above, according to the voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator of the fourth embodiment, the circuit for detecting the voltage of the input terminal L and starting the voltage control apparatus includes the field effect transistor. Thus, this embodiment can prevent the occurrence of such a phenomenon that the light emitting element is kept in a lightened state by the current flowing into the voltage control apparatus from the input terminal L.

As described above, according to the invention in aspects 1 and 7, the resistor for limiting the current flowing through the light emitting element (light emitting diode etc.) driven with a low dissipation power is disposed between the input

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terminal and the element for driving the light emitting element within the voltage control apparatus.

Thus, the voltage control circuit is prevented from being broken even in an abnormal case that the output voltage of the battery etc. is directly applied to the input terminal, and the stable starting circuit for the voltage control circuit can be arranged with the simple configuration.

According to the invention in aspects 2, 3 and 7, the light emitting element (light emitting diode etc.) driven with a low dissipation power is lightened by a current itself which is inputted into the input terminal for starting the operation of the voltage control apparatus. Thus, a dedicated transistor etc. which has been employed merely to turning on and off the light emitting element can be eliminated and the light emitting element can be turned on and off with the simple circuit arrangement.

According to the invention in aspects 4, 5 and 7, the circuit for detecting the voltage of the input terminal and starting the voltage control apparatus is arranged to be shutdown or inoperable after the vehicle generator starts the electric power generation operation. Thus, the light emitting element can be prevented from being kept in a lightened state by the current for starting the operation of the voltage control apparatus which flows into the voltage control apparatus from the input terminal L through the light emitting element (light

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emitting diode etc.).

According to the invention in aspects 6 and 7, the circuit for detecting the voltage of the input terminal and starting the voltage control apparatus includes the field effect transistor. Thus, there is no current for starting the operation of the voltage control apparatus which flows into the voltage control apparatus from the input terminal L through the light emitting element(light emitting diode etc.). Accordingly, the light emitting element is prevented from being kept in a lightened state by the current flowing into the voltage control apparatus from the input terminal.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

 A voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator comprising:

an input terminal for inputting a voltage of a battery through an ignition switch and a light emitting element connected in series with said ignition switch and driven by a low dissipation power,

a rotor coil of said vehicle generator started in excitation when a voltage at said input terminal exceeds a predetermined value, and

a resistor for limiting a current flowing through said light emitting element disposed between an element within said voltage control apparatus for driving said light emitting element and said input terminal.

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2. A voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator comprising:

an input terminal for inputting a voltage of a battery through an ignition switch and a light emitting element connected in series with said ignition switch and driven by a low dissipation power, and

a rotor coil of said vehicle generator started in excitation when a voltage at said input terminal exceeds a predetermined value, wherein

said light emitting element is lightened by a current

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which is inputted into said input terminal for starting an operation of said voltage control apparatus.

The voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator
 according to claim 2, wherein

said light emitting element is coupled through said ignition switch to a base terminal of an NPN transistor for starting an operation of said voltage control apparatus so that said light emitting element is turned on by a current flowing into said base terminal.

4. A voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator comprising:

an input terminal for inputting a voltage of a battery through an ignition switch and a light emitting element connected in series with said ignition switch and driven by a low dissipation power,

a rotor coil of said vehicle generator started in excitation when a voltage at said input terminal exceeds a predetermined value, and

a circuit for detecting the voltage of said input terminal and starting said voltage control apparatus is arranged to be shutdown after said vehicle generator starts electric power generation operation.

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5. The voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to claim 4, wherein

after said circuit for detecting the voltage of said input terminal and starting said voltage control apparatus is shutdown after said vehicle generator starts electric power generation operation, an operation of a starting circuit for said voltage control apparatus is maintained by an output of one phase of said vehicle generator.

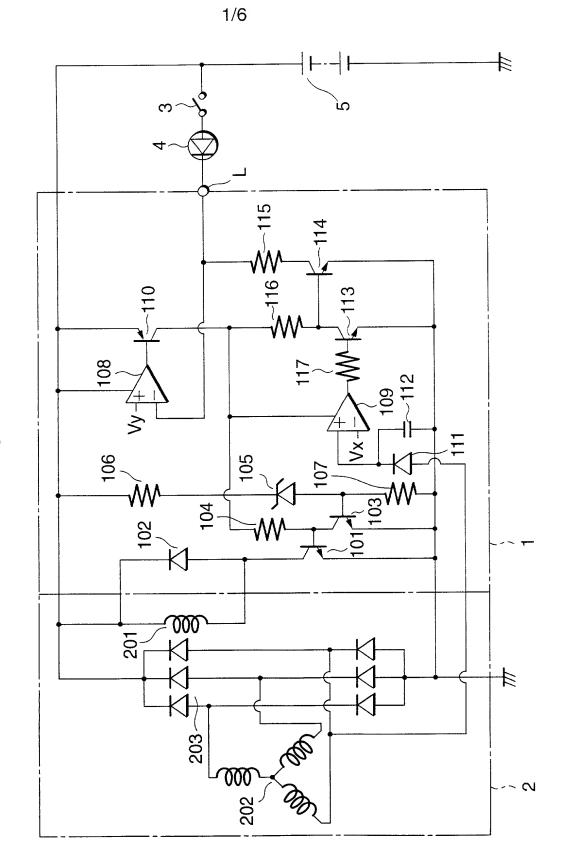
- 10 6. The voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to claim 1, wherein
 - a light emitting diode is used as said light emitting element.
- 7. The voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to claim 2, wherein
 - a light emitting diode is used as said light emitting element.
- 20 8. The voltage control apparatus for a vehicle generator according to claim 4, wherein
 - a light emitting diode is used as said light emitting element.

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A voltage control apparatus 1 for a vehicle generator 2 has an input terminal L for inputting the voltage of a battery 5 through an ignition switch 3 and a light emitting element (light emitting diode 4) connected in series with the ignition switch and driven by a low dissipation power, and starts the excitation of the rotor coil 201 of the vehicle generator 2 when the voltage at the input terminal L exceeds a predetermined value. A resistor 115 for limiting the current flowing through the light emitting diode 4 is disposed between an element 114 within the voltage control apparatus 1 for driving the light emitting diode 4 and the input terminal L.

FIG. 1



F1G.2

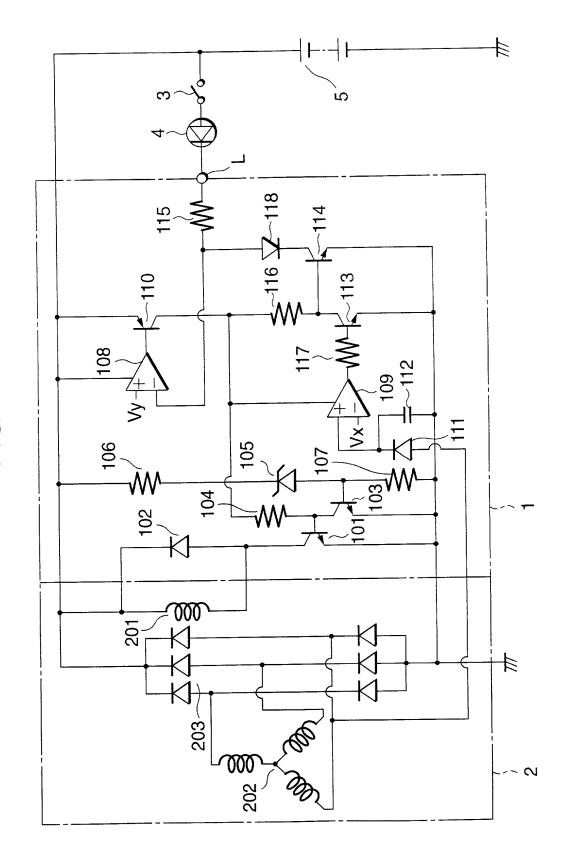
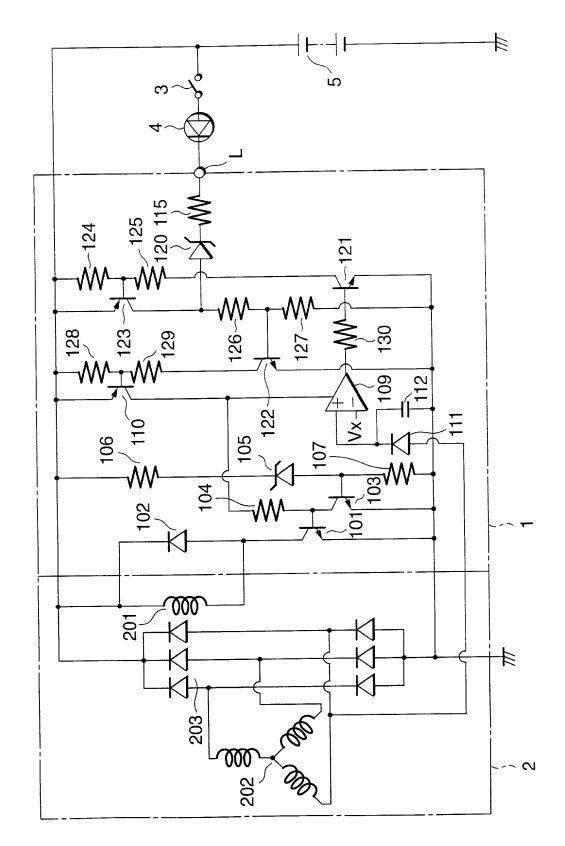
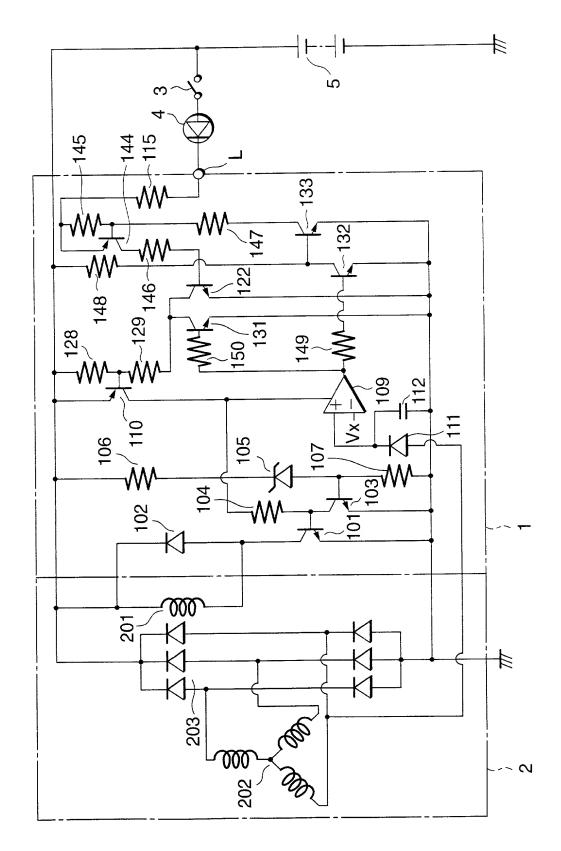


FIG.3



F1G.4



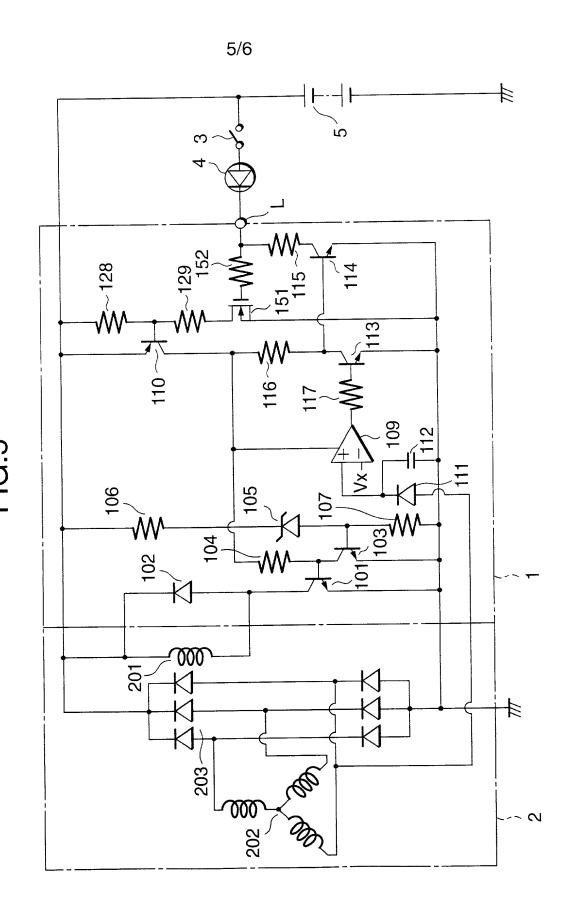


FIG.6

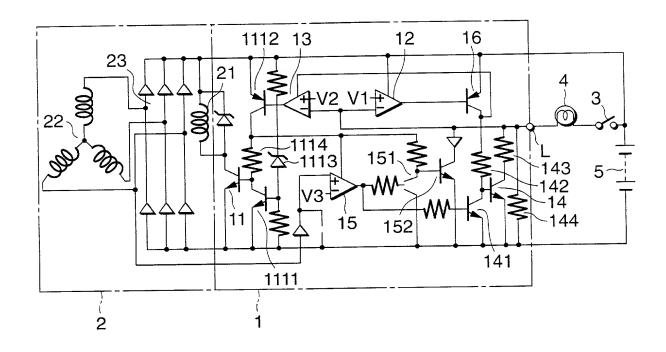
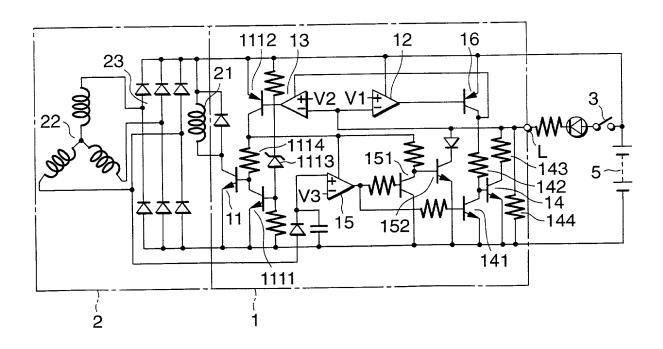


FIG.7



Declaration and Power of Attorney for Patent Application

特許出願宣言書及び委任状

Japanese Language Declaration

日本語宣言書

下記の氏名の発明者として、私は以下の通り宣言します。	As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:		
私の住所、私書箱、国籍は下記の私の氏名の後に記載された通りです。	My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name,		
下記の名称の発明に関して請求範囲に記載され、特許出願している発明内容について、私が最初かつ唯一の発明者(下記の氏名が一つの場合)もしくは最初かつ共同発明者であると(下記の氏名が複数の場合)信じています。	I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled		
	VOLTAGE CONTROL APPARATUS FOR		
	VEHICLE GENERATOR		
上記発明の明細書(下記の欄でX印がついていない場合は、本書に添付)は、	the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:		
~月日に提出され、米国出願番号または特許協定条約 国際出願番号をとし、 (該当する場合) に訂正されました。	was filed onas United States Application Number or PCT International Application Numberand was amended on(if applicable).		
私は、特許請求範囲を含む上記訂正後の明細書を検討し、 内容を理解していることをここに表明します。	I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.		
私は、連邦規則法典第37編第1条56項に定義されるとおり、 特許資格の有無について重要な情報を開示する義務があること を認めます。	I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations. Section 1.56.		

Japanese Language Declaration

(日本語官言書)

私は、米国法典第35編第119条(a)-(d)項又は第365条(b)項に基き下記の、米国以外の国の少なくとも一カ国を指定している特許協力条約第365条(a)項に基づく国際出願、又は外国での特許出願もしくは発明者証の出願についての外国優先権をここに主張するとともに、優先権を主張している本出願の前に出願された特許または発明者証の外国出願を以下に、枠内をマークすることで、示しています。

I hereby claim foreign priority under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Applications 外国での先行出願			Priority Not Claimed 優先権主張なし	
P. 2000-109030	Japan	11/Apri1/2000		
(Number) (番号)	(Country) (国名)	(Day/Month/Year Filed) (出願年月日)		
(Number) (番 号)	(Country) (国名)	(Day/Month/Year Filed) (出願年月日)		
(Number) (番 号)	(Country) (国名)	(Day/Month/Year Filed) (出顧年月日)		
私は、第35編米国法典119条(e)項 定に記載された権利をここに主張致し	質に基づいて下記の米国特許出願規 よす。	I hereby claim the benefit under Ti Section 119(e) of any United Stat listed below.		
(Application No.) (出願番号)	(Filing Date) (出願日)	(Application No.) (出願番号)	(Filing Date) (出願日)	
私は、下記の米国法典第35% 国特許出願に記載された権利 協力条約第365条(c)に基づく札 出額の各請求範囲の内容された大 は特許協力条約四規定された大 開示されていない限り、その先名 出願書の日本国内又は特許協 期間中に入手された、連邦規則 義された特許資格の有無に関う 務があることを認識しています。	権利をここに主張します。又、本 国法典第35編第112条第1項又 5法で先行する米国特許出願に 5米国出願書提出日以降で本 力条約国際出願提出日までの 1法典第37編第1条第56項で定	I hereby claim the benefit of Title 35, United States Code Section 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, Isted below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose any material information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which became available between the filling date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filling date of this application:		
(Application No.) (出顧番号)	(Filing Date) (出願日)	(Status: Patented, Pend (現況:特許許可済、係	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

私は、私自身の知識に基づいて本宣言中で私が行う表明が 真実であり、かつ私の入手した情報と私の信ずるところに基づく 表明が全て真実であると信じていること、さらに故意になされた虚 偽の表明及びそれと同等の行為は米国法典第18編第1001条 に基づき、罰金または拘禁、もしくはその両方により処罰されること、そしてそのような故意による虚偽の声明を行えば、出願した、 又は既に許可された特許の有効性が失われることを認識し、よっ てここに上記のごとく宣誓を致します。

(Application No.)

(出願番号)

(Filing Date)

(出願日)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)

(現況: 特許許可済、係属中、放棄済)

Japanese Language Declaration

(日本語宣言書)

委任状: 私は、下記の発明者として、本出願に関する一切の 手続きを米国特許商標局に対して遂行する弁理士又は代理人 として、下記のものを指名致します。(弁護士、又は代理人の氏 名及び登録番号を明記のこと) POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith (list name and registration number)

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